

FRESNO POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORTABLE USE OF FORCE PROJECT



Fourth Quarter 2003
(October/November/December)

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Chief of Police

Final Report

Use of Reportable Force Data Collection

Despite Fresno police officers routine use of verbal commands, and attempts to negotiate peaceful solutions when involved in adversarial situations, there are times when physical force is necessary to make an arrest, prevent an escape, overcome resistance or defend against injury to officers or citizens. Officers use force as a last resort, with the vast majority of confrontations resolved with very little, if any, force applied. On rare occasions, deadly force must be used; however, the public is often unaware of the vast majority of potentially deadly confrontations that are peacefully resolved without resorting to deadly force.

Until recently, the Department had no method to determine the number of times officers used non-lethal means to resolve potentially lethal situations, losing critical information needed to illustrate this important fact.

Effective March 31, 2003, the Professional Standards Unit began reviewing police reports and other force data for comparative analysis and composite reporting. This information is used to determine effectiveness and necessity of the force used, reliability of equipment, training needs, policy modifications, etc.

The Department defines reportable force as any force when:

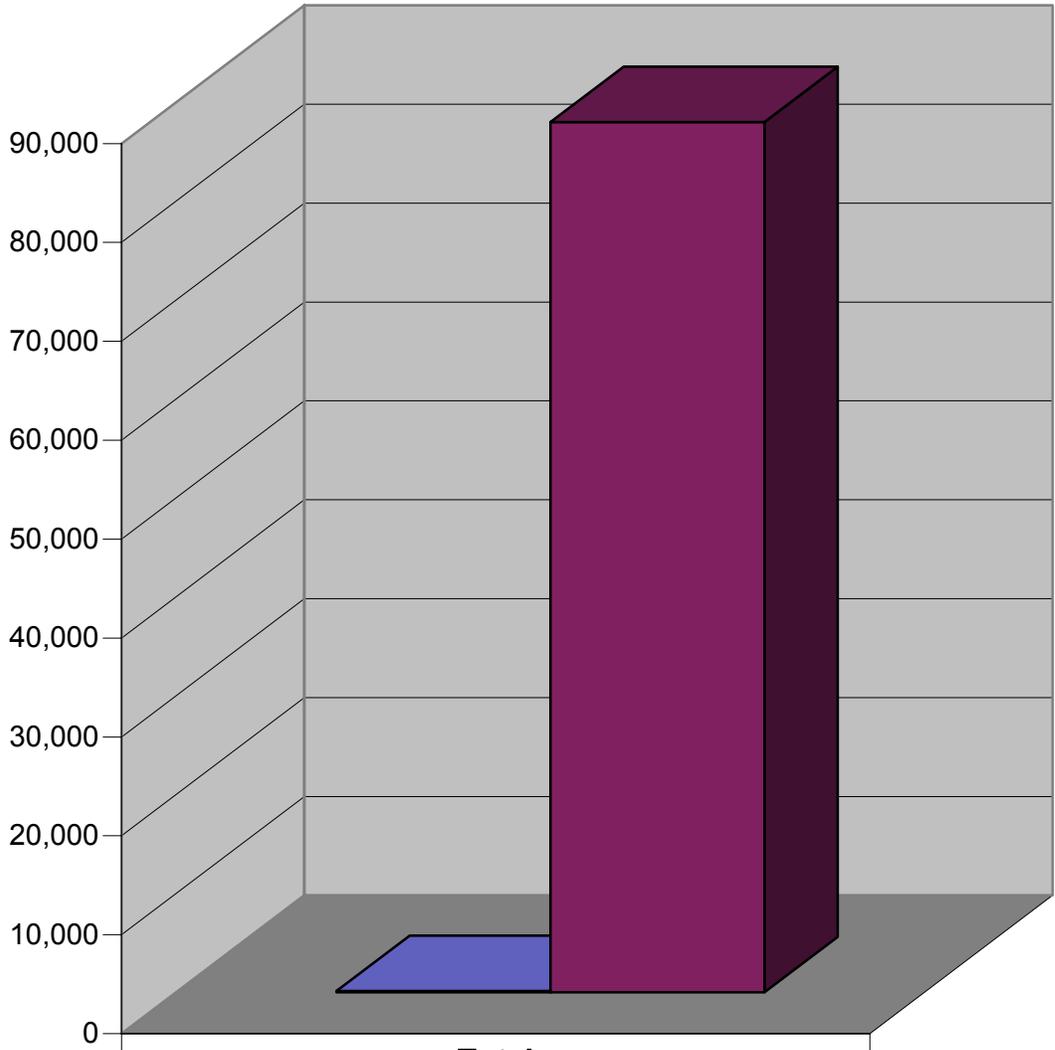
1. Officers (including canines) use force and a person is injured; or,
2. Officers strike a person with a body part (i.e. fist, foot, elbow, etc.) or any object (i.e. flashlight, clipboard, etc); or,
3. Officers use (not merely display) a department issued weapon (i.e. electronic immobilizing device, less-lethal impact projectile, chemical agents, baton, firearm, etc.).

For this quarter, Fresno police officers applied force in 107 incidents while responding to 87,990 calls for service (CFS). This equates to officers applying force in less than one-eighth of one percent (0.12%) of all calls for service for this reporting period.

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Calls For Service (CFS) vs. Reportable Force Incidents



	Total
FORCE USED	107
CALLS FOR SERVICE	87,990

CFS does not include events handled telephonically
0.12% of all CFS resulted in the application of reportable force.

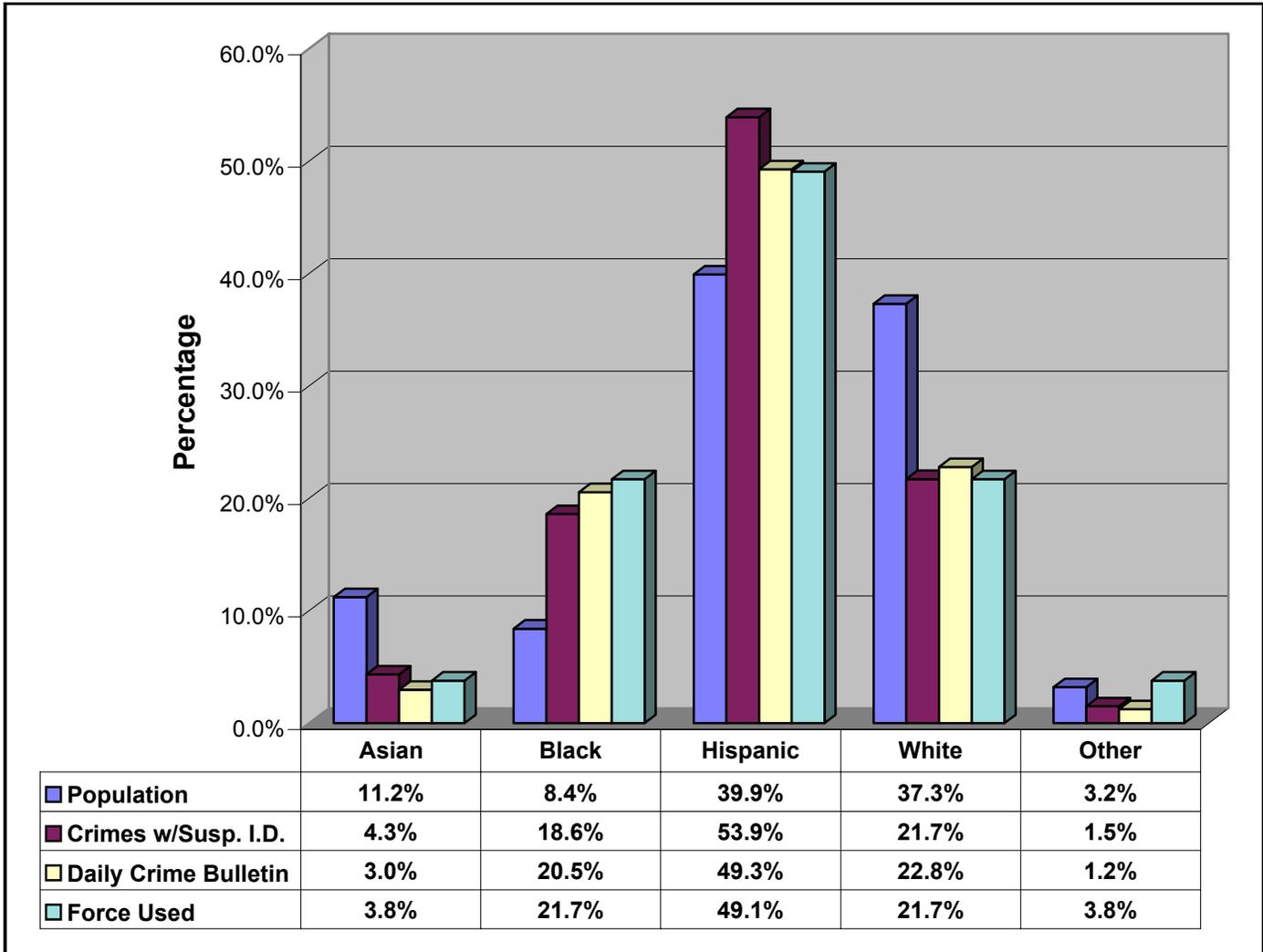
Suspect Demographics

	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White	Other
City of Fresno Pop. (427,652)*	48,028	35,763	170,520	159,473	13,868
Percentage	11.2%	8.4%	39.9%	37.3%	3.2%
Crimes with Suspect's Race/Age Identified (11,794)	510	2,192	6,357	2,560	175
Percentage	4.3%	18.6%	53.9%	21.7%	1.5%
Daily Crime Bulletin Listings (404)**	12	83	199	92	5
Percentage	3.0%	20.5%	49.3%	22.8%	1.2%
Force Applications (106)***	4	23	52	23	4
Percentage	3.8%	21.7%	49.1%	21.7%	3.8%

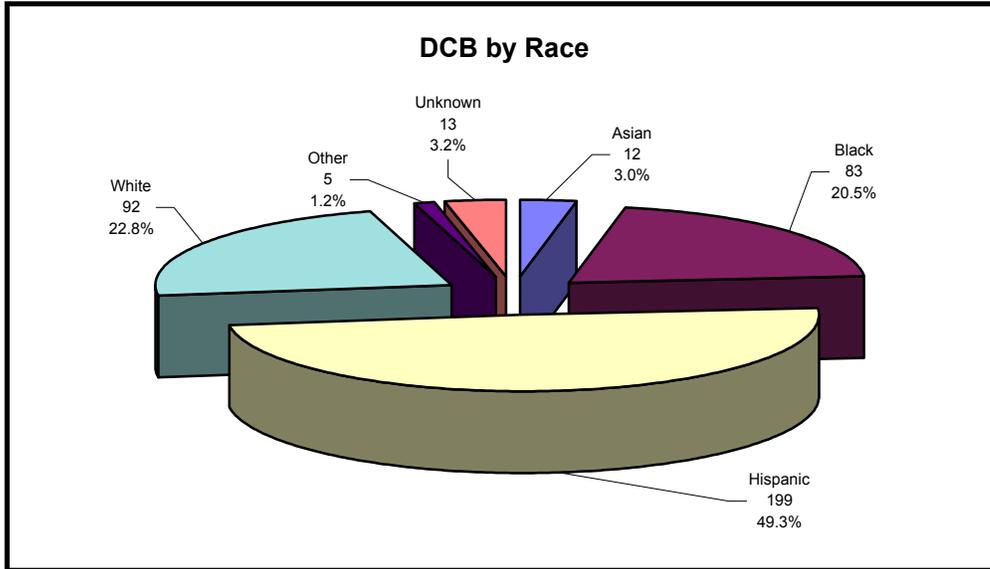
* 2000 Census

** 13 persons or 3.2% were listed as 'unknown' (see page 3 for definition of Daily Crime Bulletin - DCB)

*** Of the 107 reportable force cases, 1 had no age or race data available



DAILY CRIME BULLETIN (WANTED PERSONS) BY RACE LISTINGS – 404

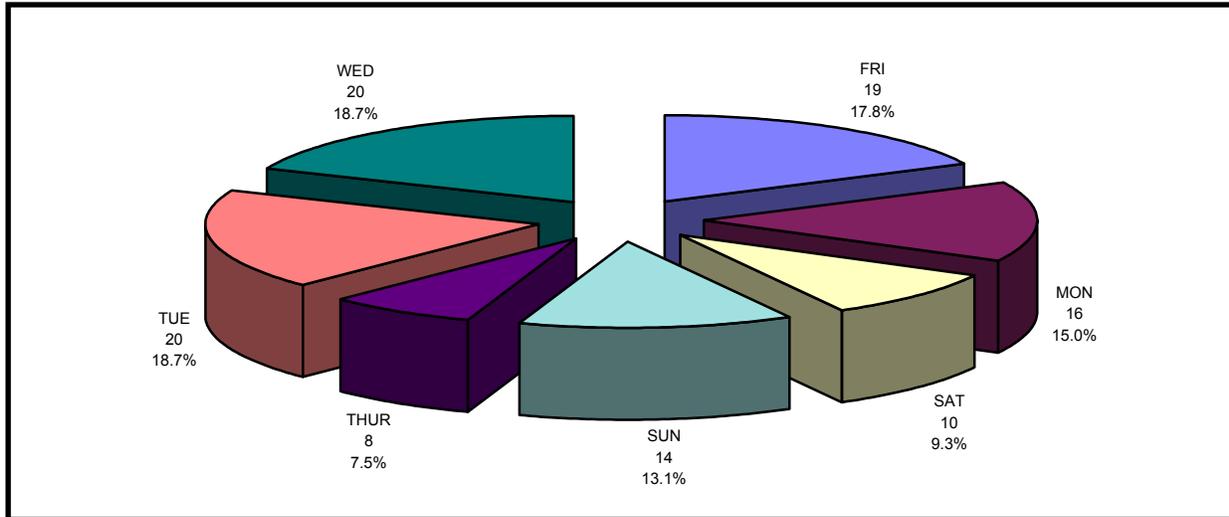


Order by Race:	Hispanic	-	49.3%
	Black	-	20.5%
	White	-	22.8%
	Unknown	-	3.2%
	Asian	-	3.0%
	Other	-	1.2%

The Daily Crime Bulletin (DCB) is a restricted, law enforcement use only document, issued department wide to all sworn personnel and twelve other local/state agencies to assist in locating/arresting suspects and wanted persons. The DCB is issued seven days a week and typically contains the following information:

- 1) Felonies with known, at-large, suspects
- 2) Wanted parolees
- 3) Officer safety information (vehicle occupants in possession of firearms, possible armed subjects, etc.)

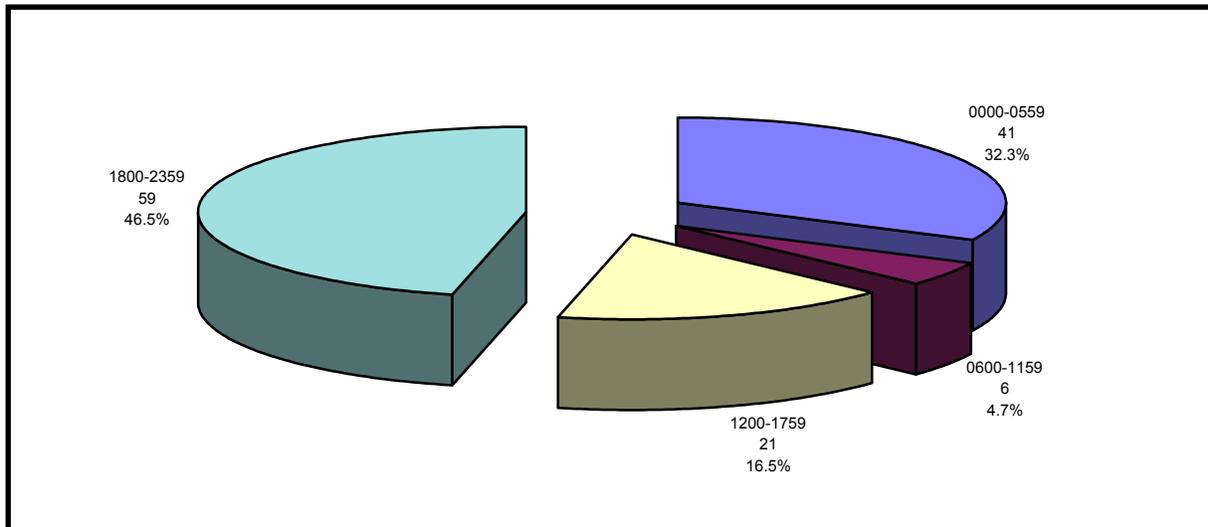
FORCE INCIDENTS BY DAY OF WEEK, CITY-WIDE



Order by Day of the Week:

Tuesday	-	18.7%
Wednesday	-	18.7%
Friday	-	17.8%
Monday	-	15.0%
Sunday	-	13.1%
Saturday	-	9.3%
Thursday	-	7.5%

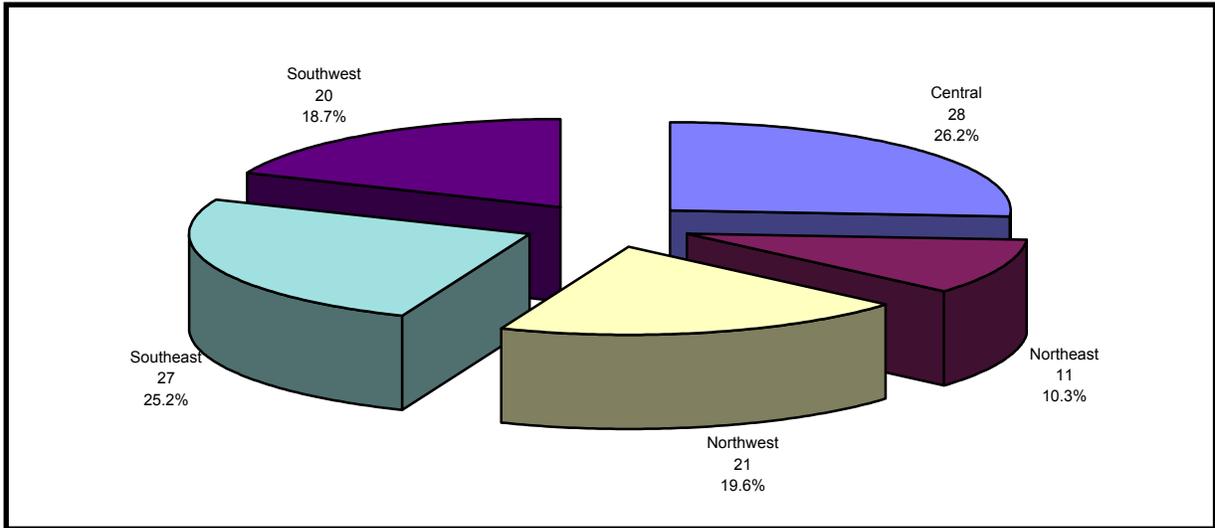
FORCE INCIDENTS BY HOUR OF DAY, CITY-WIDE



Order by Hours of the Day:

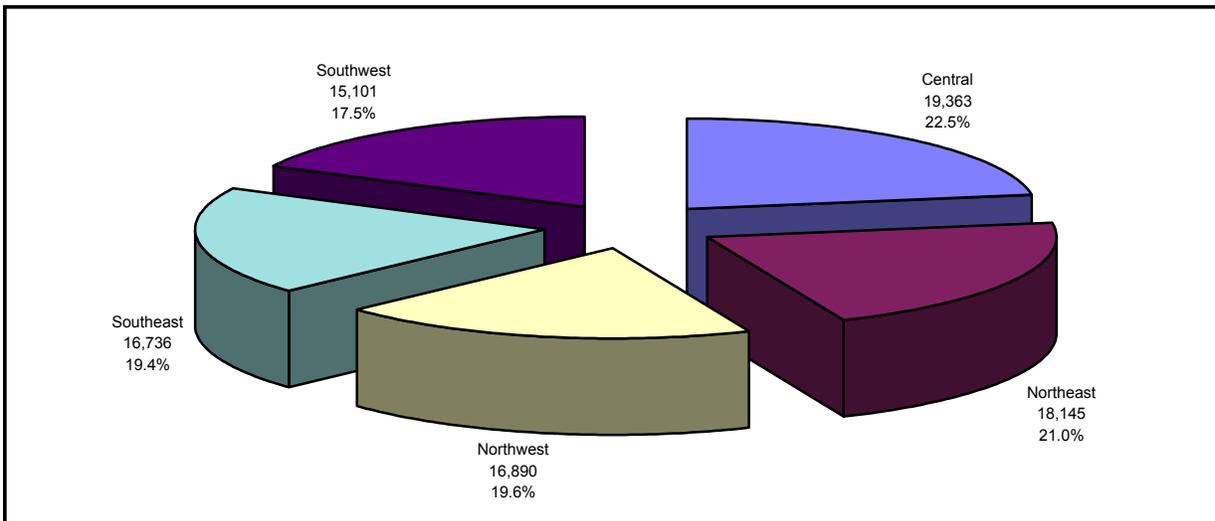
1800 to 2359 hrs	-	38.3%
0000 to 0559 hrs	-	29.9%
0600 to 1159 hrs	-	21.5%
1200 to 1759 hrs	-	10.3%

FORCE INCIDENTS BY POLICING DISTRICT*



Order by District:	Central	-	26.2%
	Southeast	-	25.2%
	Northwest	-	19.6%
	Southwest	-	18.7%
	Northeast	-	10.3%

ALL CALLS FOR SERVICE (CFS) BY POLICING DISTRICT*

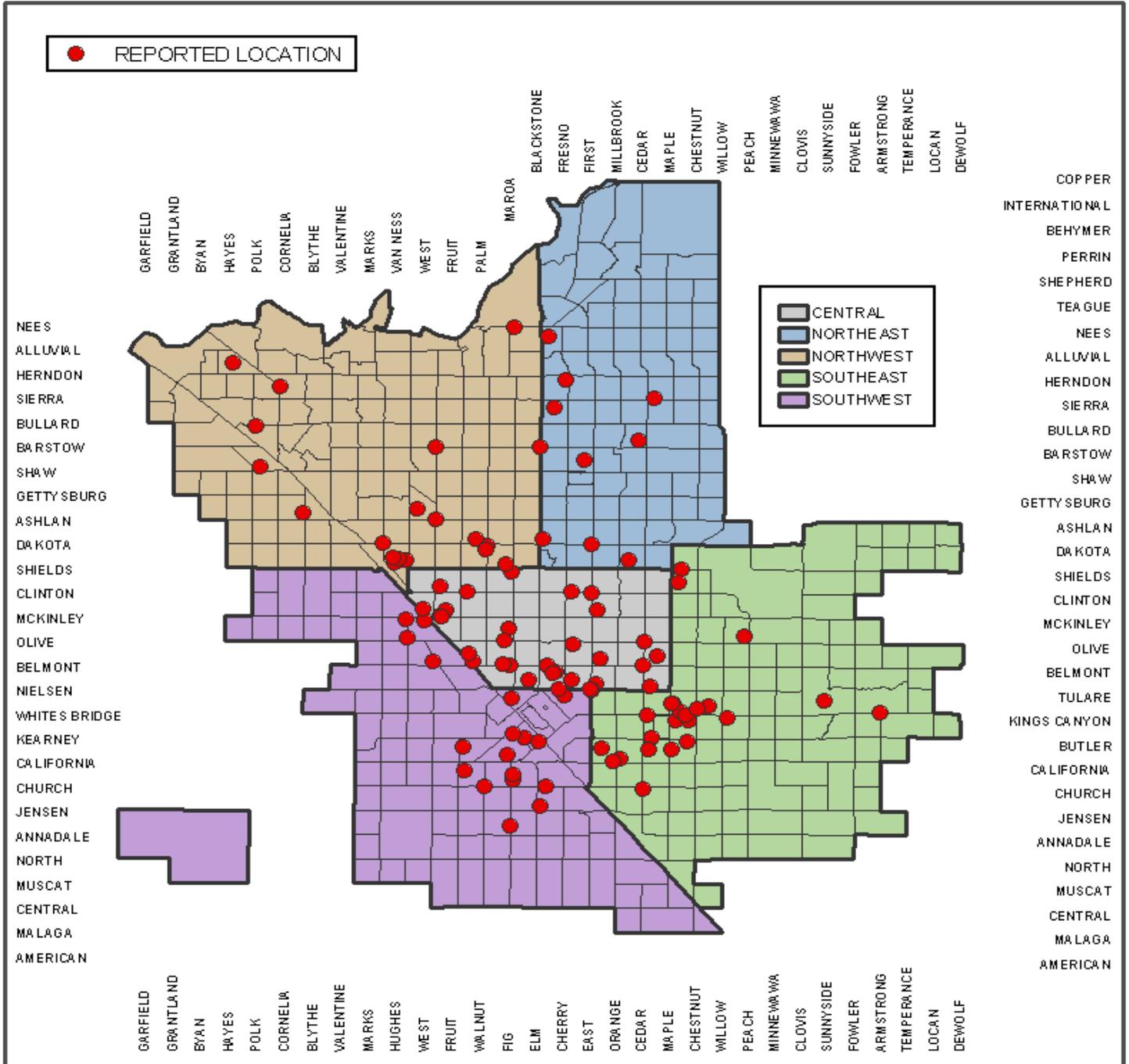


1,755 CFS were not assigned to a specific district.

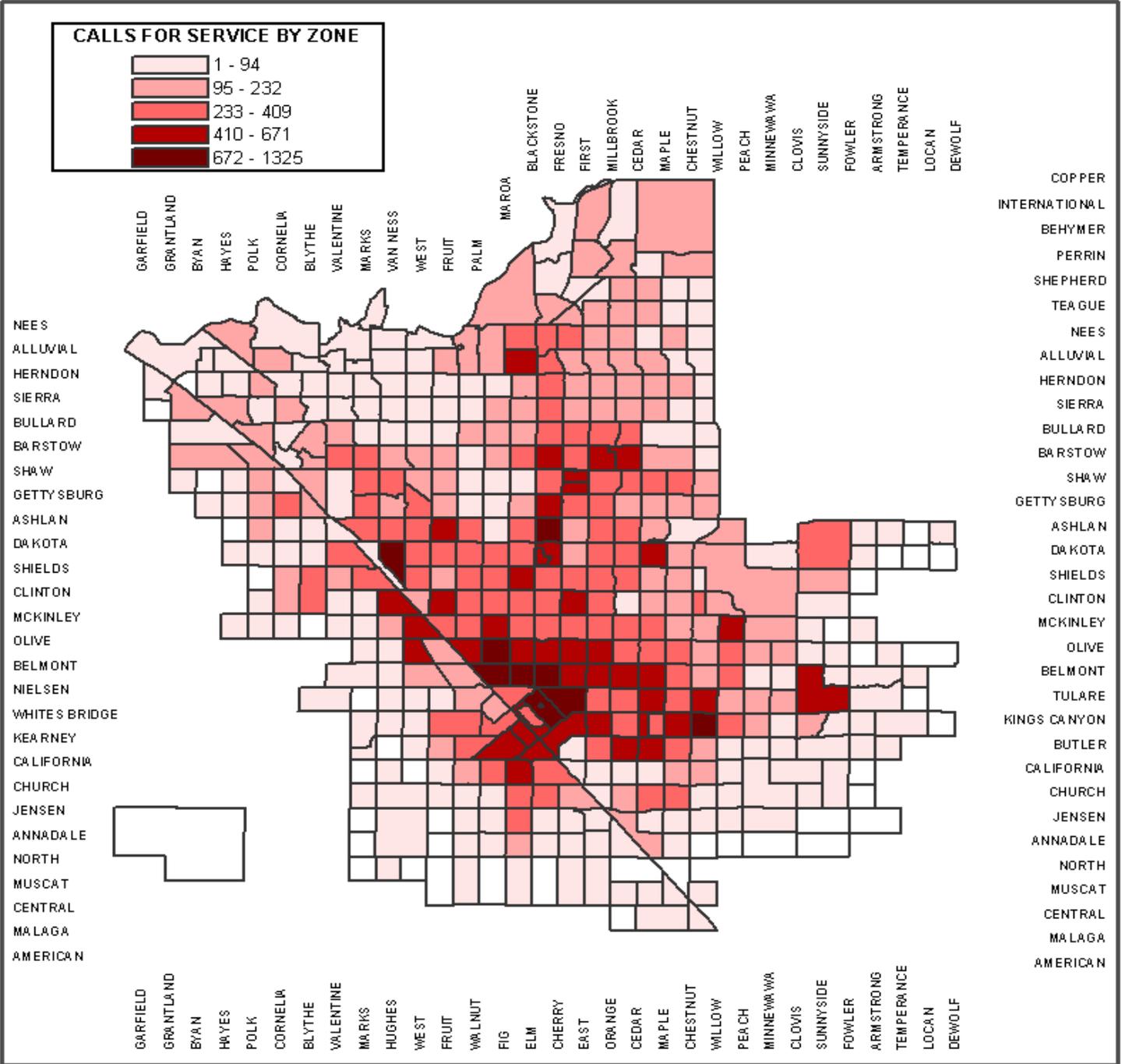
Order by District:	Central	-	22.5%
	Northeast	-	21.0%
	Northwest	-	19.6%
	Southeast	-	19.4%
	Southwest	-	17.5%

* See page 6 for policing district boundaries.

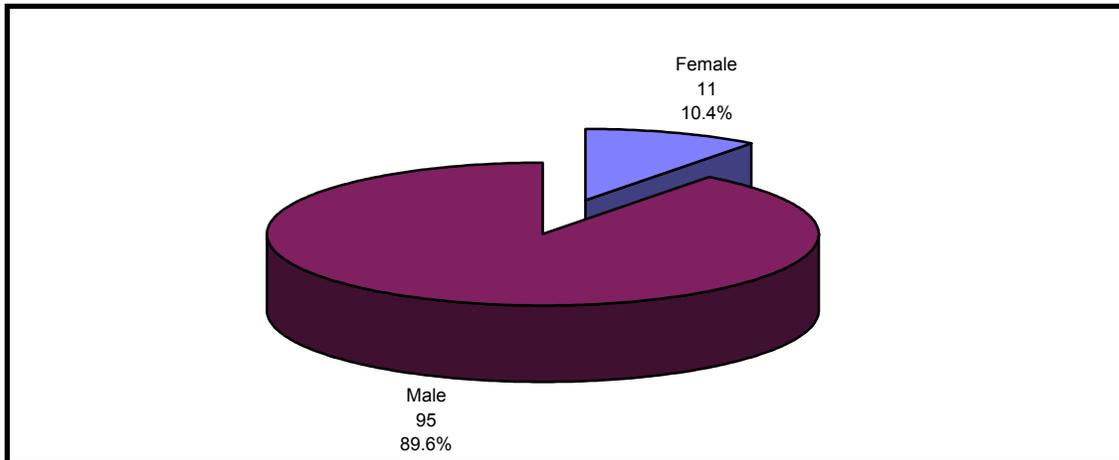
REPORTABLE FORCE INCIDENTS BY DISTRICT



CALLS FOR SERVICE BY ZONE



FORCE INCIDENTS BY GENDER OF SUSPECTS



Of the 107 force incidents, 1 had no gender data available.

REPORTED CRIMES BY AGE AND RACE OF SUSPECTS

Age Group	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White	Other	TOTAL
12-17	153	322	911	289	23	1,698
18-23	197	458	1,678	436	55	2,824
24-29	62	382	1,352	388	31	2,215
30-35	29	293	937	377	28	1,664
36-41	26	264	696	414	15	1,415
42-47	30	232	406	357	13	1,038
48-53	5	163	236	156	5	565
54-59	3	61	87	104	3	258
60-65	1	13	41	17	2	74
66 and Over	4	4	13	22	0	43
Total	510	2,192	6,357	2,560	175	11,794

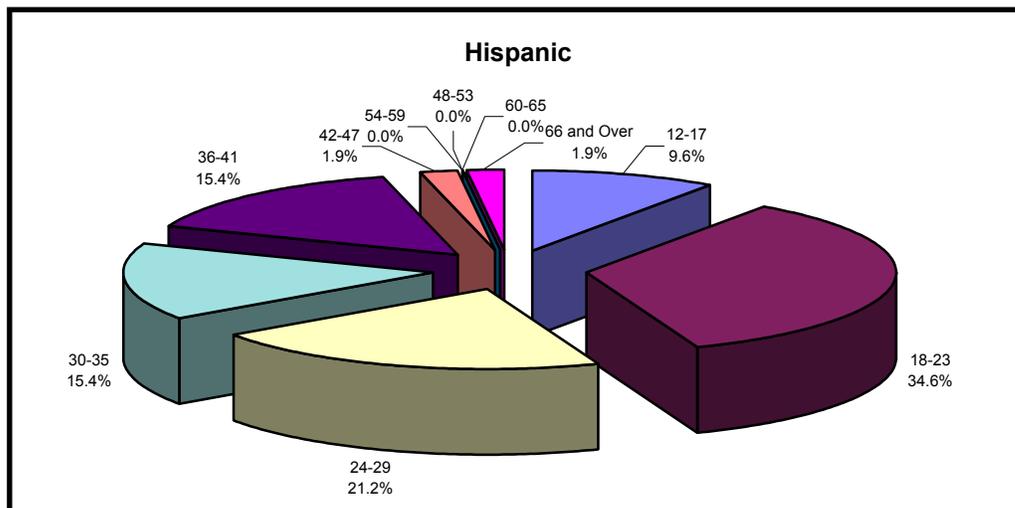
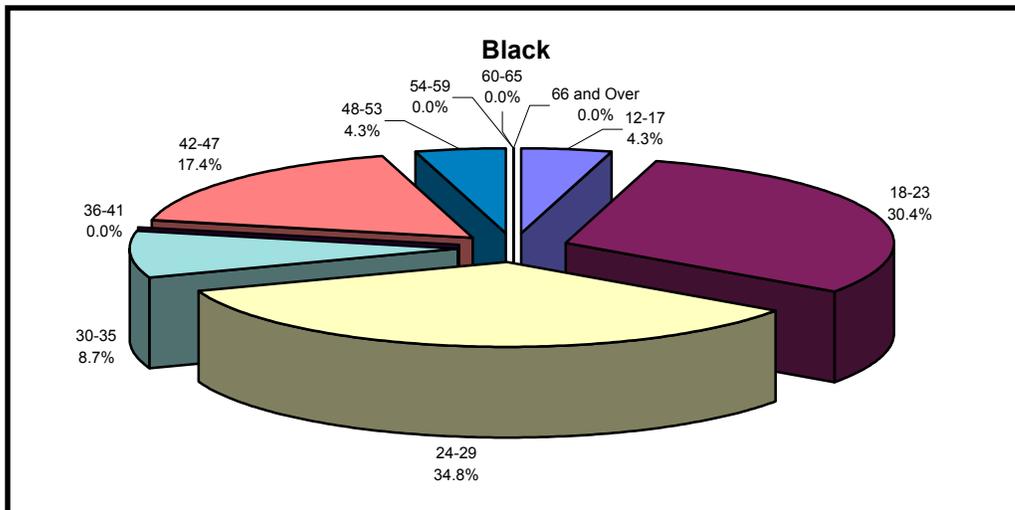
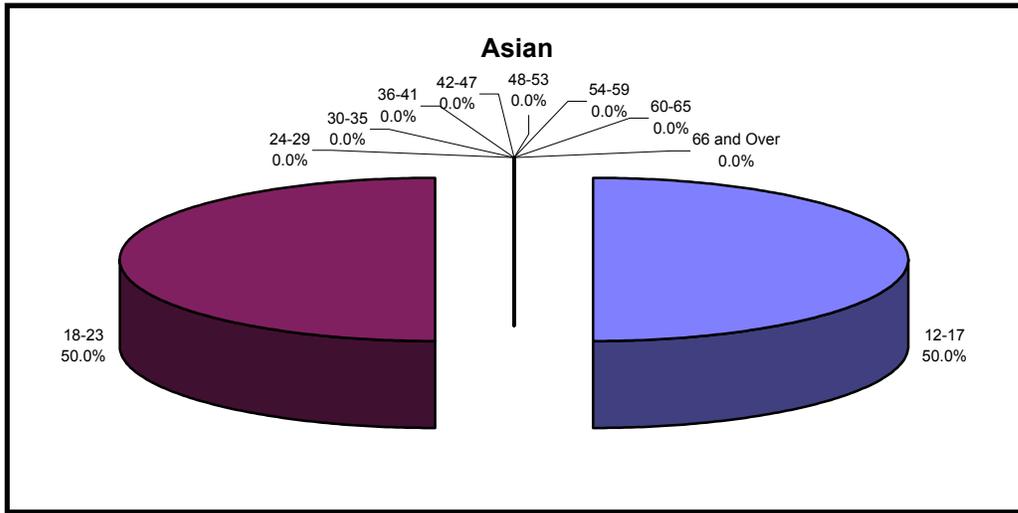
Of the 11,847 reported crime suspects, 11,794 had both the age and race data.

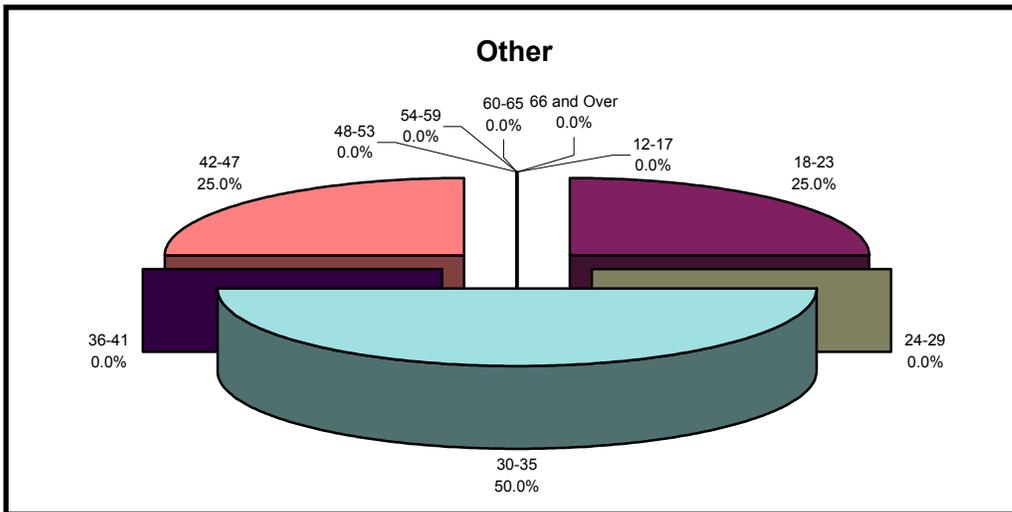
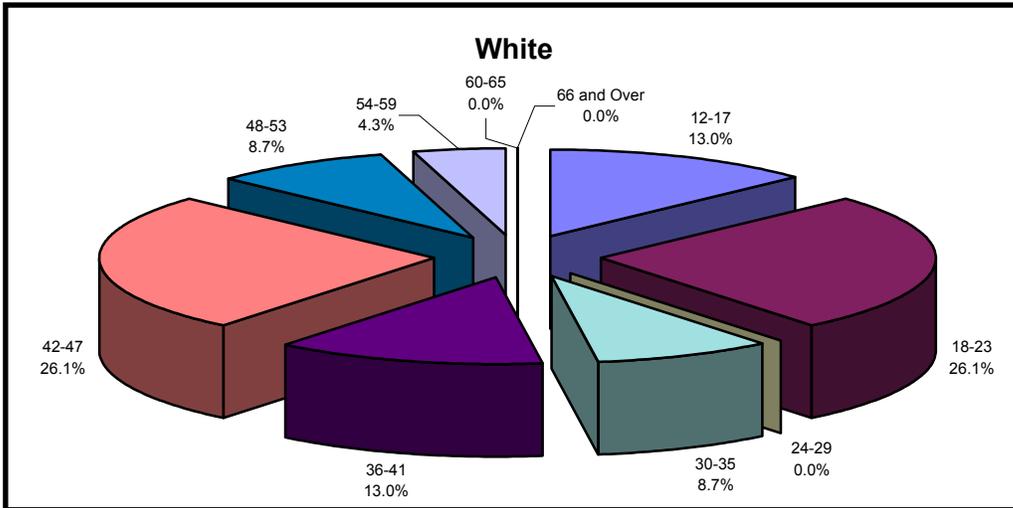
REPORTABLE FORCE INCIDENTS BY AGE AND RACE OF SUSPECTS

Age Group	Asian	Black	Hispanic	White	Other	TOTAL
12-17	2	1	5	3		11
18-23	2	7	18	6	1	34
24-29		8	11			19
30-35		2	8	2	2	14
36-41			8	3		11
42-47		4	1	6	1	12
48-53		1		2		3
54-59				1		1
60-65						0
66 and Over			1			1
Total	4	23	52	23	4	106

Of the 107 force used cases, 106 had both the age and race data.

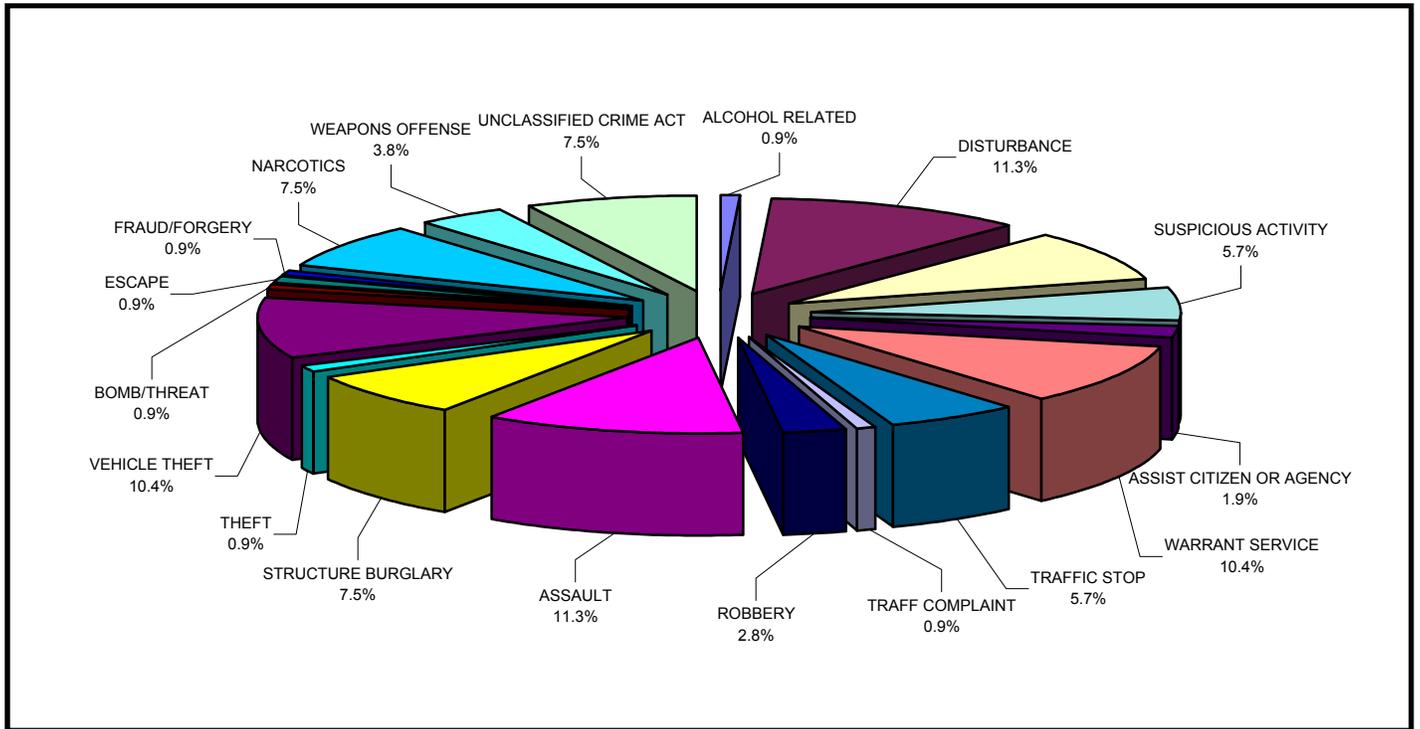
REPORTABLE FORCE INCIDENTS BY AGE AND RACE OF SUSPECTS





"Other" refers to persons whose race is not defined as Asian, Black, Hispanic or White, i.e. persons from the Pacific Islands, Mid-East, or India.

TYPE OF CFS RESULTING IN REPORTABLE FORCE INCIDENTS

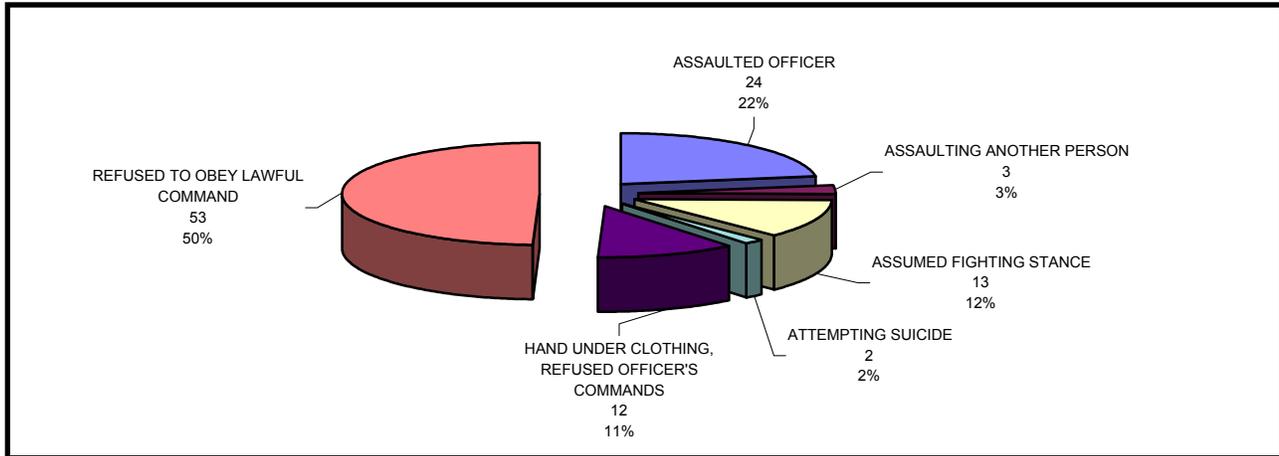


Order by Force Incident Clearance Code:

Force Incident Clearance Code	Force Incidents:	CFS Total:
DISTURBANCE	12	14952
ASSAULT	12	1374
WARRANT SERVICE	11	2211
VEHICLE THEFT	11	3675
HEALTH/SUICIDE	9	2766
STRUCTURE BURGLARY	8	4922
NARCOTICS	8	1080
UNCLASSIFIED CRIME ACT	8	313
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY	6	10753
TRAFFIC STOP	6	15820
WEAPONS OFFENSE	4	900
ROBBERY	3	522
ASSIST CITIZEN OR AGENCY	2	2916
ALCOHOL RELATED	1	885
TRAFF COMPLAINT	1	3285
THEFT	1	3903
BOMB/THREAT	1	20
ESCAPE	1	1
FRAUD/FORGERY	1	301
TOTAL	106 *	

* One force incident had no clearance code.

SUSPECT'S ACTIONS NECESSITATING THE USE OF FORCE



Order by Action:

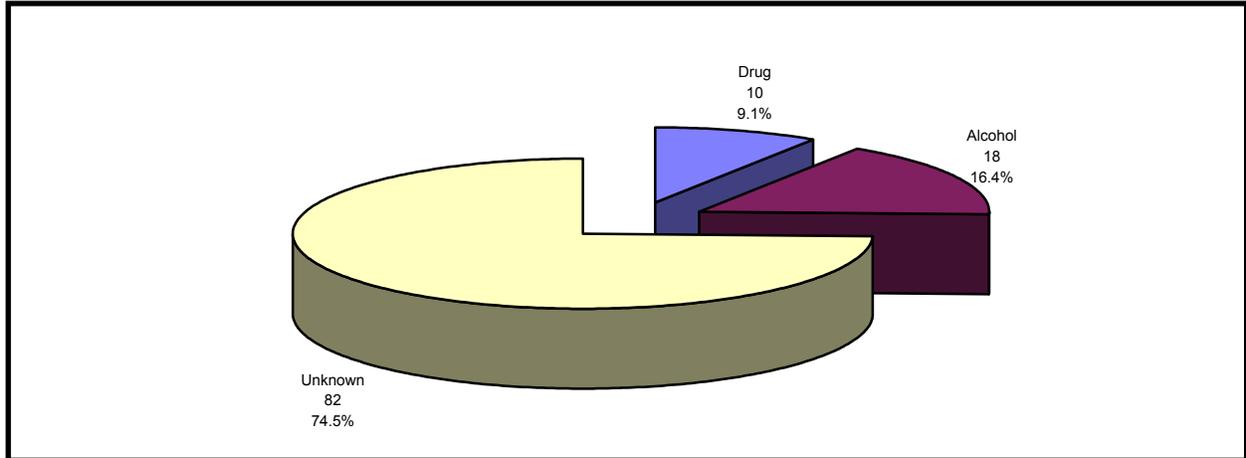
REFUSED TO OBEY LAWFUL COMMAND	-	49.5%
ASSAULTED OFFICER	-	22.4%
ASSUMED FIGHTING STANCE	-	12.1%
HAND UNDER CLOTHING, REFUSED OFFICER'S COMMANDS	-	11.2%
ASSAULTING ANOTHER PERSON	-	2.8%
ATTEMPTING SUICIDE	-	1.9%

REPORTABLE FORCE INCIDENTS BY TYPE OF CFS AND SUSPECT'S ACTION

TYPE OF CFS	ASSAULTED OFFICER	ASSAULTING ANOTHER PERSON	ASSUMED FIGHTING STANCE	ATTEMPTING SUICIDE	CLOTHING, REFUSED OFFICER'S COMMANDS	REFUSED TO OBEY LAWFUL COMMAND
ALCOHOL RELATED	0	1	0	0	0	0
DISTURBANCE	1	1	3	0	2	5
HEALTH/SUICIDE	1	0	1	2	2	3
SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY	1	0	2	0	0	3
ASSIST CITIZEN OR AGENCY	1	0	0	0	0	1
WARRANT SERVICE	1	0	2	0	0	8
TRAFFIC STOP	2	0	1	0	1	2
TRAFF COMPLAINT	0	0	0	0	0	1
ROBBERY	0	0	0	0	0	3
ASSAULT	7	1	0	0	1	3
STRUCTURE BURGLARY	2	0	0	0	1	5
THEFT	0	0	0	0	0	1
VEHICLE THEFT	2	0	2	0	0	7
BOMB/THREAT	0	0	0	0	0	1
ESCAPE	0	0	0	0	0	1
FRAUD/FORGERY	0	0	0	0	0	1
NARCOTICS	3	0	0	0	2	3
WEAPONS OFFENSE	1	0	0	0	1	2
UNCLASSIFIED CRIME ACT	2	0	2	0	1	3
Total	24	3	13	2	11	53*

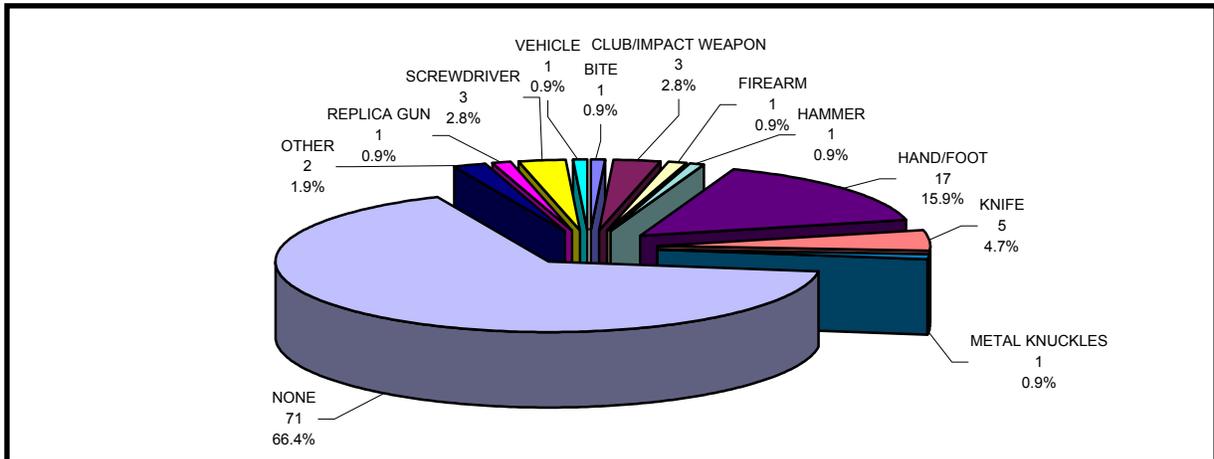
* One force incident had no clearance code.

SUSPECT'S DRUG/ALCOHOL USE WITH REPORTABLE FORCE APPLIED



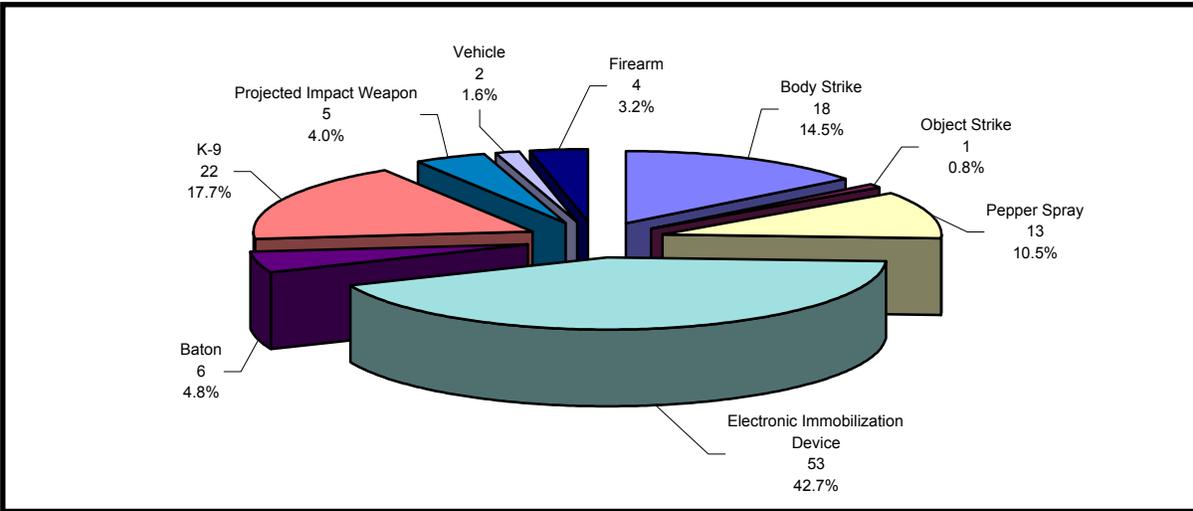
Some suspects were under the influence of both drugs and alcohol

SUSPECT WEAPONS WITH REPORTABLE FORCE APPLIED



Order by Weapon:	NONE	-	66.4%
	HAND/FOOT	-	15.9%
	KNIFE	-	4.7%
	CLUB/IMPACT WEAPON	-	2.8%
	SCREWDRIVER	-	2.8%
	OTHER	-	1.9%
	BITE	-	0.9%
	FIREARM	-	0.9%
	HAMMER	-	0.9%
	METAL KNUCKLES	-	0.9%
	REPLICA GUN	-	0.9%
	VEHICLE	-	0.9%

REPORTABLE FORCE USED BY OFFICERS



Some incidents require multiple applications of force to take a suspect into custody or stop an unlawful attack.

Order by Force:

Electronic Immobilization Device	-	42.7%
K-9	-	17.7%
Body Strike	-	14.5%
Pepper Spray	-	10.5%
Baton	-	4.8%
Projected Impact Weapon	-	4.0%
Firearm	-	3.2%
Vehicle	-	1.6%
Object Strike	-	0.8%

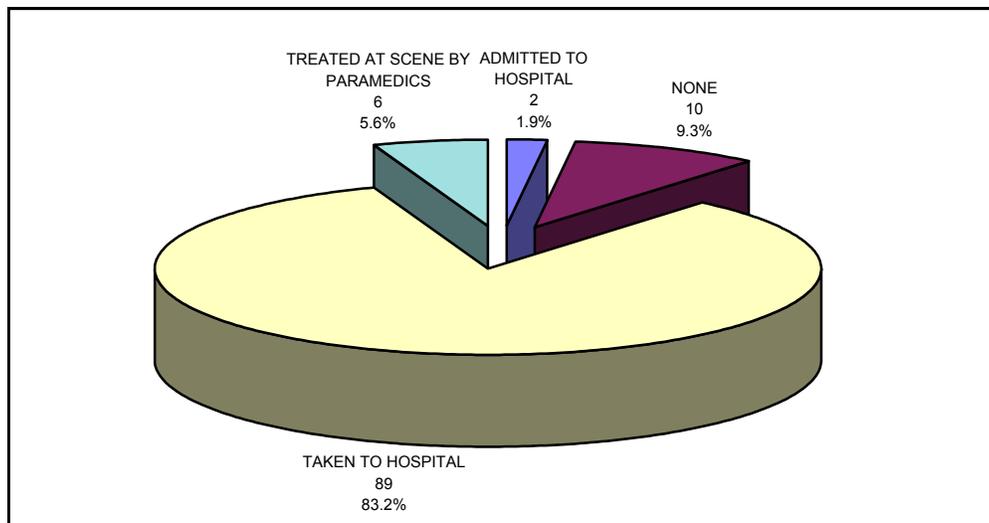
Note: Electronic Immobilization Device is also referred to as a Taser.

Projected Impact Weapon is also referred to as a Less Lethal Shotgun (bean bag gun).

OFFICER SAFETY ISSUES, WEAPON RETENTION

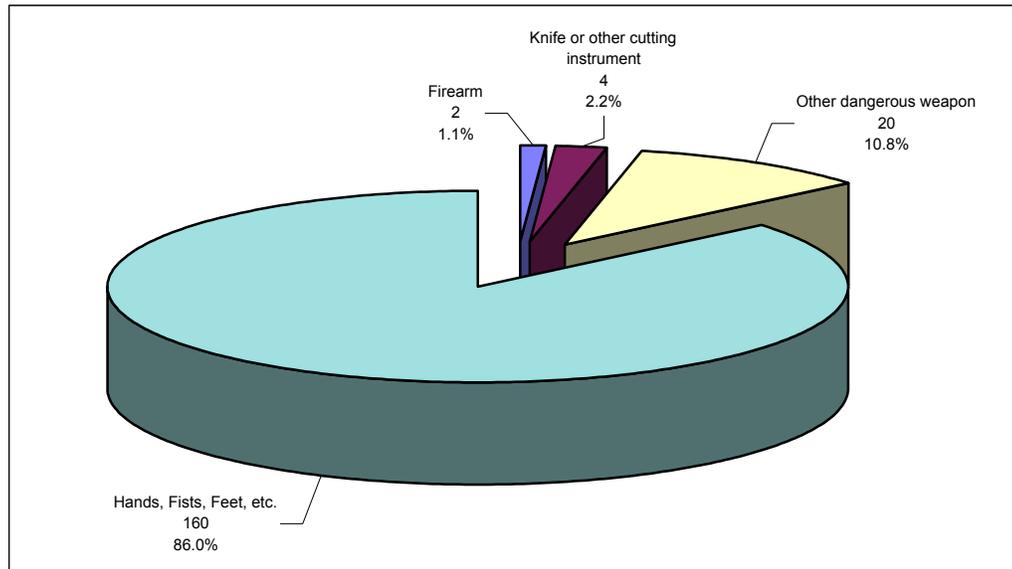
* No incidents occurred this quarter whereby a suspect attempted to remove, or removed, an officer's weapon.

SUSPECT MEDICAL REVIEW AFTER REPORTABLE FORCE APPLIED



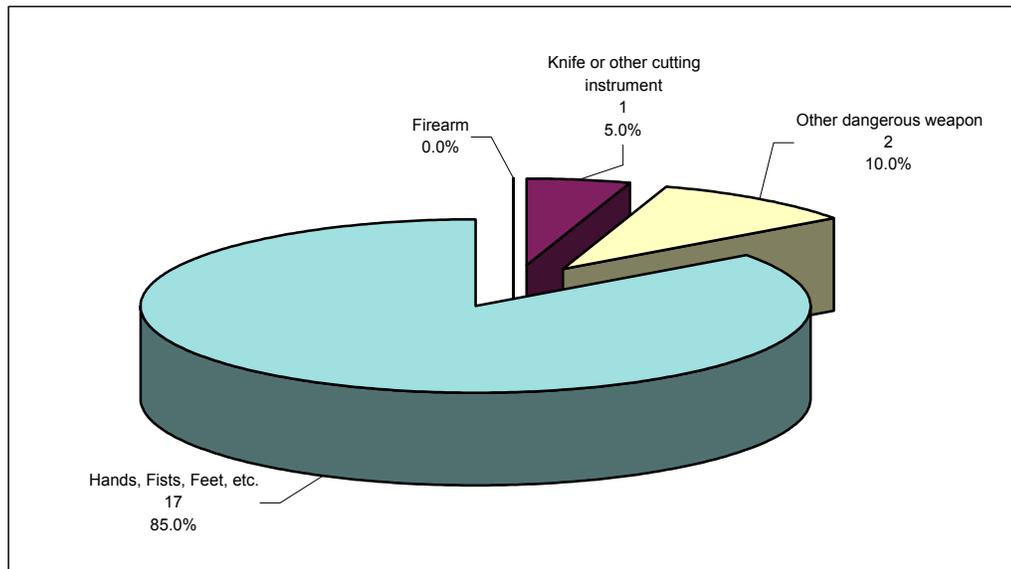
Not all suspects who received medical review were injured. Per Department policy, any person subjected to a chemical agent/mace, electronic immobilizing device (taser), less lethal impact projectile, or any force which causes injury or renders temporary disability to an arrestable subject, is automatically provided medical care at a hospital.

OFFICER ASSAULTED *



186 officers were assaulted.

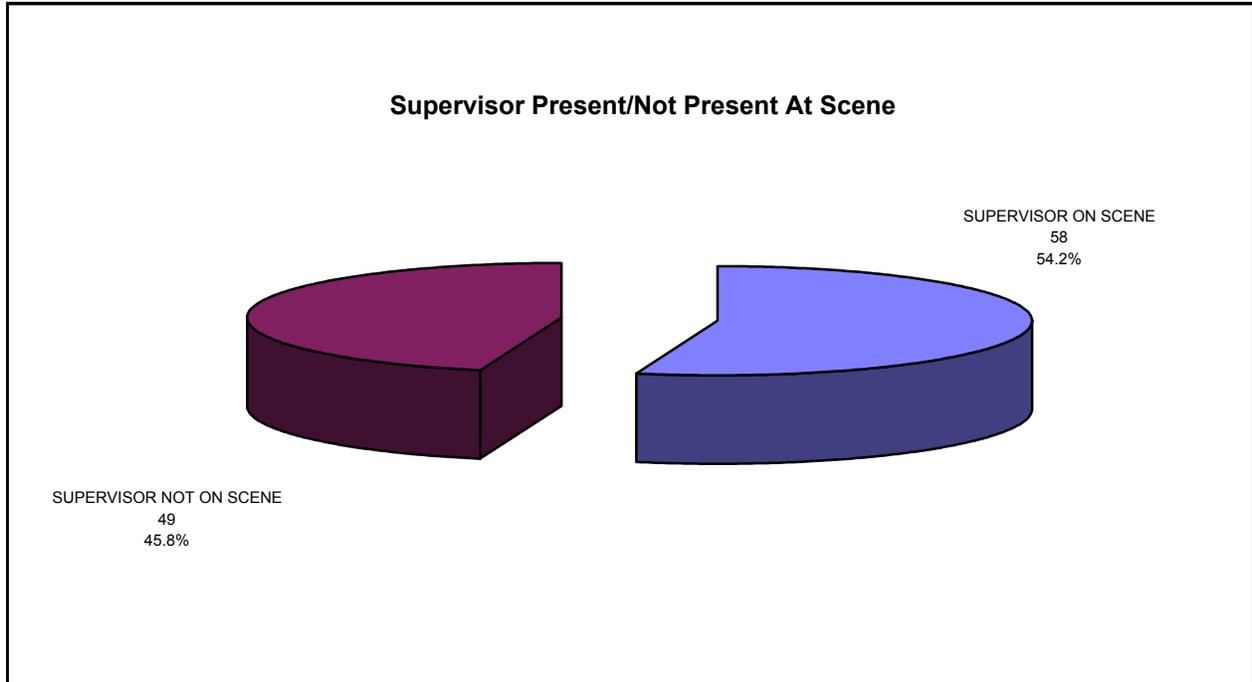
OFFICER INJURED *



20 officers were injured requiring immediate medical treatment.

* Data based on the 4th Qtr 2003 LEOKA (Law Enforcement Officers Killed or Assaulted) report. Not all incidents, where an officer was injured, involved a use of reportable force, i.e. the suspect gives up after injuring an officer.

SUPERVISOR ON SCENE WHEN REPORTABLE FORCE APPLIED



A supervisor may be enroute to assist an officer on a call; however, the officer may be required to use reportable force prior to the supervisor's arrival. In these circumstances, the supervisor would be considered "not on scene."